

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

5

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A drip absorption mat to be laid under a drip-oozing food comprising:

10 an absorption sheet configured to absorb drips; and

a porous surface sheet arranged over adjoining the absorption sheet, and having a first side facing said absorption sheet and a second side configured to adjoin in contact with the food;

15 wherein said drip absorption mat prevents is configured to prevent color deterioration on a rear side of the food in contact with adjoining said porous surface sheet by adjusting augmenting the breathability of said absorption sheet in both the horizontal and depth thickness directions.

2. (currently amended) A drip absorption mat according to Claim 1;

20 wherein said absorption sheet comprises a piece of non-woven fabric having a thickness in the range from of 0.3 mm to 3.0 mm.

3. (currently amended) A drip absorption mat, for use with a tray configured with a mounting surface on which the food is to be placed, according to Claim 1;

25 wherein said drip absorption mat is configured as a tray mat to be laid on a the mounting surface of a the tray on which the drip-oozing food is placed between the tray and the food.

4. (currently amended) A drip absorption mat to be laid under a drip-oozing food comprising:

30 an absorption sheet configured to absorb drips; and

a porous surface sheet arranged over adjoining the absorption sheet, and having a first side facing the absorption sheet and a second side configured to adjoin in contact with the food;

wherein the drip absorption mat is characterized by a ventilation resistance, value of said drip absorption mat in the depth in the thickness direction, that does not exceed 1.00 Kpa·s/m.

5 5. (currently amended) A drip absorption mat according to Claim 4;
 wherein a ventilation resistance value of said porous surface sheet in the depth thickness direction does not exceed 0.20 Kpa·s/m.

10 6. (currently amended) A drip absorption mat according to Claim 4;
 wherein said absorption sheet comprises a piece of non-woven fabric having a thickness in the range from of 0.3 mm to 3.0 mm.

15 7. (currently amended) A drip absorption mat, for use with a tray configured with a mounting surface on which the food is to be placed, according to Claim 4;
 wherein said drip absorption mat is configured as a tray mat to be laid on a the mounting surface of a the tray between the tray and the food on which the drip-oozing food is placed.

20 8. (currently amended) A drip absorption mat according to Claim 4;
 wherein a ventilation resistance value of said drip absorption mat in the is characterized by a ventilation resistance value in a horizontal direction that does not exceed 0.20 Kpa·s/m when the resistance is measured by the following test method; wherein a test methodology, comprising:
 laying a plurality of drip absorption mats are laid one on top of another to build a drip absorption mat stack;
 , from which excising a cylinder of 28 mm in diameter and 5.0 mm thick in the direction of layering is excised; and
 aerating said cylindrically excised drip absorption mat stack is aerated in the horizontal direction of the drip absorption mat.

25 9. (currently amended) A drip absorption mat according to Claim 8;
 wherein said absorption sheet comprises a piece of non-woven fabric having a thickness in the range from of 0.3 mm to 3.0 mm.

10. (currently amended) A drip absorption mat, for use with a tray configured with a mounting surface on which the food is to be placed, according to Claim 8;

5 wherein said drip absorption mat is configured as a tray mat to be laid on a the mounting surface of a the tray between the tray and the food on which the drip-oozing food is placed.

11. (currently amended) A drip absorption mat to be laid under a drip-oozing food comprising:

10 an absorption sheet configured to absorb drips; and
 a porous surface sheet arranged over adjoining the absorption sheet, and having a first side facing the absorption sheet and a second side configured to adjoin in contact with the food;

15 wherein said porous surface sheet comprises a film having a plurality of protrusions, each protrusion having a convex side and a concave side concavity shaped undulations;

20 wherein a hollow cavity is formed in adjacent the protrusion on the convex portion side; and

wherein a pore is provided at the bottom of said concavity portion to form concave side such that the protrusion forms a minute aperture.

25 12. (currently amended) A drip-absorption mat according to Claim 11;
 wherein an end portion of a terminal portion of said porous surface sheet is in contact with the absorption sheet, and in contact with said absorption sheet mat framing said aperture is notched so as to facilitate easy air flow between the hollow cavity and the aperture in the horizontal direction.

30 13. (currently amended) A drip absorption mat according to Claim 11;
 wherein said minute aperture is tapered with an opening of larger diameter on the a side configured to adjoin contact side with the food.

 14. (currently amended) A drip absorption mat according to Claim 11;
 wherein said absorption sheet and said porous surface sheet are adhered with to each other without clogging in a manner that does not clog said minute aperture provided on said porous surface sheet.

15. (currently amended) A drip absorption mat according to Claim 14;
wherein the absorption and porous surface sheets are glued either at dots or in a
line.

5 16. (currently amended) A drip absorption mat, for use with a tray configured
with a mounting surface on which the food is to be placed, according to Claim 15;
wherein said drip absorption mat is configured as a tray mat to be laid on a the
mounting surface of a the tray between the tray and the food on which the drip-oozing
food is placed.

10 17. (currently amended) A drip absorption mat according to Claim 11;
wherein said film of said porous surface sheet shares not exceeding protrusions
comprise not more than 30% of the total space occupied by area of said porous surface
sheet.

15 18. (original) A drip absorption mat according to Claim 11;
wherein the number of said apertures is not below 20 per 1 cm².

20 19. (currently amended) A drip absorption mat according to Claim 11;
wherein the ventilation resistance value of said drip absorption mat in the is
characterized by a ventilation resistance value in a horizontal direction that does not
exceed 0.20 Kpa·s/m when measured by the following test method, wherein a test
methodology, comprising:

25 laying a plurality of drip absorption mats are laid with one on top of another to
build a drip absorption mat stack;

, from which excising a cylinder of 28 mm in diameter and 5.0 mm thick in the
direction of layering being excised; and

aerating said cylindrically excised drip absorption mat stack being aerated in the
horizontal direction of the drip absorption mat.

20. (currently amended) A drip absorption mat, for use with a tray configured with a mounting surface on which the food is to be placed, according to Claim 11;

wherein said drip absorption mat is configured as a tray mat to be laid on the mounting surface of a the tray between the tray and the food on which the drip-oozing food is placed.

5

21. (new) An absorption mat for receiving food item oozing liquid, comprising:

an absorption sheet configured to absorb liquid; and

10 the absorption sheet and a second side for adjoining the food item, the first side defining a cavity between the absorption sheet and the surface sheet;

wherein the surface sheet is configured to support the food item while maintaining the cavity between the absorption sheet and the surface sheet; and

15 wherein the surface sheet defines pores that allow liquid from the food item to flow through to the absorption sheet.